

## **STIMULUS WATCH: WEEK 39**

*With Tax Day Around the Corner, the IRS Decides to Spend \$80 Million in Taxpayer Stimulus Funds on Their Own Office*

- The IRS is spending \$80,469,000 in Stimulus funds for a “Cadillac” style renovation, with “all the bells and whistles,” of their facility in Andover, Massachusetts.
- This is the exact same facility that laid-off 1,400 employees just last year. Begging the question, who exactly is benefiting from this renovation and what jobs are being created or even saved?
- The IRS’s regional spokeswoman didn’t seem to know. In an email to the *Boston Herald*, she conceded, “It is premature to speculate on what, if any, new types of jobs might come to Andover.” Meanwhile, Rep. Niki Tsongas (D-MA), the project’s key proponent in Congress, has refused to “second-guess where [the] money would’ve been better spent.”
- Massachusetts unemployment rate is currently 9.5%.
- Under the House Republican Stimulus Alternative, \$80,469,000 in taxpayer funds would not have been spent on renovating an IRS building that has been losing jobs over the last year. Instead, Republicans would have created twice as many jobs at half the cost. To learn how visit:  
<http://republicanwhip.house.gov/Jobs/>
- **Source:**  
<http://www.bostonherald.com/news/regional/view.bg?articleid=1246257&format=text>

The Washington Watch Report is available on the House Republican Whip’s website:  
<http://republicanwhip.house.gov/blog/wwindex.html>

It is updated weekly with new items of wasteful stimulus spending, a look at jobs created by the stimulus.